

order to have all in good condition. But I think I may say safely that the yield I secured from the one colony could be taken easily from them all, had I produced honey instead of bees. Examined bees in cellar, and found them so quiet that rapping on the hive would not wake them. Opened some and found them alive and so sleepy that they did not stir at first. They were dry and comfortable. I am trying a different covering to any I know of in use, and will report results in the spring.

J. KNOWLES.

Edmonton, Alberta, N. W. T., Feby. 17, '90.

After having the Norwest Farmer copy the letters of Mr. Knowles and Rev. Mr. Fotheringham, as they appeared in the BEE JOURNAL, together with our comments, Mr. C. F. Bridgman writes thus:

"Mr. Fotheringham's report taken alone, be it ever so true, would no doubt prove misleading as to the capabilities of the country. While there are great districts of country in both Manitoba and the North-West which present the appearance of immense flower gardens run wild, there are, as if to break the monotony, localities which seem to devote most of their energies to growing grass. This scarcity of bloom does not generally exist in the neighborhood of scrubby timber or broken and undulating prairie, where I have always advised enquirers as the more favorable places for bee-keeping. As regards artificial pasturage for bees, I can not agree that all clovers are failures. Red and alsike have not done very much as yet, although I have had a few favorable reports. But white clover, which ranks among the best of honey plants, I have the best of reason to believe will be a success. I have never heard of it being killed out. It has been growing here in places—sown by accident—for years, but not in quantities to influence the honey crop, and I have sown it on the roadside, in fields and other places and have watched its hardy growth and rapid spreading year after year with increasing interest. Three years ago I sowed buckwheat for the bees, and they got considerable honey from it, but the flavor did not catch me just right, and coming when there was an abundance of honey from other sources I discontinued sowing it, but that was not the end of it, for it has come up every year since, and the bees find it too. Since I began keeping bees in this country there has been nothing like a failure in the honey crop. Every year—and there have been five of them—has been good. There was only one year in which I

could arrive at the average per colony, on account of buying and selling, and that year it was 100 lbs., but individual colonies sometimes gave 150 lbs. and two to four swarms. One colony gathered 25 lbs. in three days during last August."

C. F. BRIDGMAN.

FERNTON, Man., Feby. 20, '90.

Artificial Honey and Manufactured Science.

THE above caption covers an article by Allen Pringle, Esq., in the May number of the Popular Science Monthly, and this is, we believe, the first correction of the absurd and untrue statements made by Professor H. W. Wiley, in the columns of that Magazine away back in 1881.

We are often told that this is a scientific age, and the statement is undoubtedly true. The world now more than ever before looks to science as a secular if not a spiritual guide. However much their speculations may be questioned and controverted, the scientific book and the scientific men are popularly accepted as authority, at least on matters of physical and historical fact. The veracity of science therefore is, or ought to be, above suspicion. How careful, then, ought the teacher and exponent of science to be that his assertions are true; that his alleged facts are facts; and that even his speculations are free from the appearance of dogmatism! He needs to be especially particular when writing for the general public, for people untrained in science will accept his statements as expert testimony. Errors will thus be sure to mislead his readers, many of whom are without the knowledge that would enable them to discriminate between the true and the false in his assertions.

In The Popular Science Monthly for June, 1881, appeared an article on Glucose and Grape-Sugar, by Prof. H. W. Wiley. In that article the following unfortunate statement was made: "In commercial honey, which is entirely free from bee mediation, the comb is made of paraffin, and filled with pure glucose by appropriate machinery." To say that there was not one word of truth in that extraordinary assertion is the short and proper way to put it, and that is exactly what I undertake to say. There was not a tittle of evidence that any such honey had ever been made up to that time, nor is there a particle of evidence that any such honey has since been made.

Nevertheless, this vile slander on an honest